Boys of his community were not allowed admission yet in all the Government schools in the State. The Member prayed that the above grievance might be redressed at least in the current year.

In regard to the award of scholarships, the Member said that, if a boy failed to get promotion to the higher class even on account of ill-health or any other unavoidable cause, he forfeited his scholarship. That rule worked hardship in the case of intelligent boys. In such cases, the Member prayed that the cause of the failure should be ascertained and the scholarship continued, if it was found that the boy had an aptitude for learning. For the benefit of others, technical schools should be started.

There was a School of Arts conducted by the community near the Lekshmipurom market in Kottayam. The site of the building belonged to a private person. The Member requested that, for locating the school, the site known as Panoorkulam, belonging to the Government, might be given to them and also a free grant of timber for a building.

The Member next prayed that a night school be specially started for the use of his community. Finally, the Member dwelt at length on the difficulty experienced by his people in imparting English education to their children. The Government had not rendered any help to them in the matter. He requested that arrangements might be made by the Government for educating at least five students from his community, in each of the Secondary schools. At present, nine students were studying English in the various English Schools of the State. He prayed that the best amongst them might be educated by the Government at their cost and that the remaining boys be granted scholarships.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

130. Raising the standard of the Kuzhithura Lower Grade Secondary School.

Mr. S. S. Ramaswami Iyer (Member, T. I. C., Kuzhithura) said that the want of a High School at Kuzhithura, was keenly felt and the people could not afford to go outside and obtain for their children the advantages of higher education. Both Dr. Mitchell and Dr. Bishop, Directors of Public Instruction, recommended to the Government the establishment of a High School at the place, but the proposal was not sanctioned by the Government. If a High School was established at Kuzhithurai, it would attract pupils from Neyyattinkara, Thuckalai, Eraniel and other places on account of the healthy situation, convenience and the cheap living at Kuzhithurai. The Member, therefore, prayed that a High school be established at Kuzhithurai.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

131. Raising the standard of the Neyyattinkara Lower Grade Secondary School.

Mr. N. O. Kesava Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Neyyattinkara) said that the present L. G. S. school had steadily grown into importance and that the absence of higher classes in the school stood in the way of increased attendance in the school. The people could not afford to send their children to Trivandrum and Nagercoil on account of their poverty. The difficulties could be obviated, if the standard of the school was raised up to the Sixth Form. The strength of the school would rise and the school would become self-supporting.

Dewan.—The Government have sanctioned the opening of the Fourth Form in the English School at Kanjiramkulam. How far is that place from Neyyattinkara ?

Member.—About 6 miles.

Dewan.—Is the distance more than 4 miles ?

Member.—The distance is nearly 6 miles. It is an out-of-the-way place and is more than 5 miles from Neyyattinkara. The place would not suit the Hindu boys. There is no water convenience also.

Dewan.—What is the strength of the III Form at present ?

Member.—Between 25 and 30. In the beginning of the year it was about 25 If higher classes are opened, the strength will increase gradually.

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All the classes from the Fourth to the Sixth Form need not be opened at once. It would be enough, if Form IV alone was sanctioned for the present. In sanctioning one additional class, no additional expenditure would be necessary. There would be at least 25 to 30 students in the IV Form and their fees would come to Rs. 75 per mensem. No additional accommodation was necessary, as the new class could be held in the room now used by the Head Master, his office being transferred to one of the unused tiffin sheds. The present Head Master who was a B. A. & L. T. could very well teach the Fourth Form. An additional teacher, if found necessary, might be appointed for one of the Lower Forms on a pay of Rs. 25 per mensem. The surplus amount might be utilised in buying chemical appliances. If higher Forms were sanctioned, the people were ready to provide additional accommodation at their own expense. Granting that any additional expenditure was necessary for the Fourth Form itself, the people were ready to defray the same at once. Under the circumstances, the Member prayed that the Government might be pleased to sanction the opening of at least the Fourth Form in the local English School.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

132. Opening of a Lower Grade Secondary School at Nedumangad.

Mr. K. Narayana Pillai (Member, Nedumangad taluk) said that the taluk was admittedly backward in point of education, especially English education, and added that the people were not sufficiently well-to-do to send their children to other places for education. There was no need for the fear that there would not be enough boys, if a school was opened. There were more than 300 students in the 5th, 6th and 7th classes in the three Higher Grade Elementary schools in the taluk. The necessity for an English school was badly felt by the people. The subject was brought up at the sixth and eighth sessions of the Assembly and a representation on the subject was made to the Dewan during his visit to the taluk. The Member prayed that a Lower Grade Secondary school might be established in the Nedumangad taluk.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

133. Suggestions for improving the present condition of education in the Kottarakara taluk.

Mr. C. P. Kochukunju Pillai (Member, Kottarakara taluk) said that people were backward in education in the taluk and that the number of schools in the taluk was inadequate when compared with its extent and population. There was only one L. G. S. School for English education and the number of Elementary schools was but 37, of which 13 were departmental and 24 aided. For Elementary education there was only one school for 6 square miles. The only L. G. S. School in the taluk was started 45 years ago. There were several representations in the Assembly by the Members from the taluk for raising the standard of the school to a High School. The proposed High School would benefit not only the Kottarakara taluk but also the neighbouring taluks of Kunnattur and Pathanapuram. The people had promised, more than 4 years ago, to construct, at their own cost, the additional buildings that might be required. There would be sufficient number of students also. Some years ago, there was a net saving from the school to the extent of about Rs. 200. Even now the income and expenditure were almost equal. The Member, therefore, prayed that the standard of the school might be raised up to the Sixth Form and that the Fourth Form might be opened from the beginning of the next school-year. He then presented a memorial signed by a large number of inhabitants of the taluk containing the same prayer.

The school-going population in the taluk calculated at 15% was about 14,000, of which more than 8,000 remained uneducated. That was due to the want of a sufficient number of schools. The Government were sparing in giving grants to aided schools. To provide schools for all children, 80 additional schools, each with a strength of 100, had to be newly opened. The people were not in a position to conduct grant-in-aid schools. There was paucity in the number of qualified teachers in the taluk. Qualified men from other taluks were not likely to accept places on Rs. 6 per mensem. Of the 24 grant-in-aid schools in the taluk, 20 were conducted

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